



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 17, 2021

## **Violist Marina Thibeault Honours the Work of Three Groundbreaking Composers in New Concert Filmed at the Chan Centre**

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Program features curated works from innovative women and non-binary composers Ana Sokolović, Dorothy Chang, and Melody McKiver
- Multi-camera production filmed over three days in February 2021 on the Chan Centre stage
- Live moderated post-show talk with Marina Thibeault to follow the digital premiere

**Vancouver, BC — The Chan Centre for the Performing Arts** at the University of British Columbia presents Canadian violist **Marina Thibeault**, part of the virtual Dot Com Series. Recorded on the Chan Centre stage, the exclusive performance will premiere on Friday April 9, 2021 at 7pm PST with a virtual watch party, and will remain available for on demand viewing until May 31, 2021. A post-show talk with Marina will follow the premiere.

Named *Radio-Canada's* Classical Revelation for 2016-2017, and one of CBC's 30 Hot Classical Musicians Under 30 in 2016, sought-after violist and UBC School of Music assistant professor **Marina Thibeault's** "plangent tone and expressive phrasing" (*The Strad*) foreground a great richness in her playing that is on display across genres. An extension of her 2020 JUNO Award-nominated album *ELLES*, which honours groundbreaking women and non-binary composers from Clara Schumann to the present day, this performance includes a wide-ranging program of works for solo viola by **Ana Sokolović, Dorothy Chang, and Melody McKiver.**

"We're thrilled to include this beautiful recital by Marina Thibeault in the Dot Com Series" says Pat Carrabré, Director of the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts. "Marina is both a talented musician and dedicated educator who we are fortunate to have on faculty here at UBC. Her nuanced artistry on the viola, along with the carefully selected works by such innovative composers, are beautifully showcased in this new concert filmed on our stage."

Thibeault performs three movements from Serbian-born, Montreal-based Ana Sokolović's *Cinque Danze*, inspired by Balkan rhythms, modes, and atmospheres, as well as her free, melismatic *Prelude for Solo Viola*. American-born, Vancouver-based composer Dorothy Chang's works have been called "evocative and kaleidoscopic" (*The Seattle Times*). Her *Streams* challenges the listener's imagination as it investigates subjective ideas of place, time, and memory. The program also features two works from Anishinaabe composer Melody McKiver. Originally released on their bracing debut EP "Reckoning", McKiver's *Ningodwaasi* and *Niizh* integrate electronics with Western classical music, taking Thibeault's viola to intensely expressive new places.

An avid chamber musician, Thibeault has collaborated with members of the Guarneri Quartet, the Cleveland Quartet, Charles-Richard Hamelin, Marie-Nicole Lemieux, and Johannes Moser, amongst other renowned artists. Her interest in new music has led her to work with composers such as John Corigliano, Joan Tower, and Krzysztof Penderecki. Marina's first album, *Toquade*, was released in April 2017 on the ATMA label, and was nominated by the ADISQ and Prix Opus for Album of the Year. Her critically-acclaimed second album, *ELLES*, was released in March 2019.

She holds numerous awards and distinctions, including prizes from the Père-Lindsay Foundation (2017), the Sylva Gelber Foundation (2016), first prize in the string category of Prix d'Europe (2015), the McGill Concerto Competition (2015), the Radio-Canada "Young Artist" prize (2007), as well as a special prize at the Beethoven Hradec International Viola Competition (2008). At age nine, before discovering the viola, she was the youngest violin student to enter the Conservatoire de Musique de Québec where she studied with Claude Létourneau, Catherine Dallaire, and François Paradis.

Recent highlights include *Harold in Italy* with the Orchestre Métropolitain and Yannick Nézet-Séguin, a prairie debut tour with the Trio Saint-Laurent, and her inaugural year as Assistant Professor of Viola at the UBC School of Music in 2019/20. Thibeault is a passionate advocate for human rights and has used her music to reach out to at-risk women and raise awareness for organizations that support marginalized communities.

### **About the Dot Com Series**

The Chan Centre Dot Com Series launched in September 2020 in light of restrictions on gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Delivered 100% online, the series features a wide range of remarkable performing artists, both locally and internationally based, bringing Chan Centre audiences exclusive performances filmed both at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts and elsewhere around the world. Past performers include Jeremy Dutcher, PIQSIQ, Cristina Pato, Brendan McLeod, Lan Tung, and Shane Koyczan.

### **About the Chan Centre for Performing Arts at UBC**

Since 1997, the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts has earned an international reputation for its striking design, stellar acoustics, and exceptional programming. Artists, critics, and patrons alike are unanimous in their praise of the facility, winning it a place among North America's top-rated performing arts spaces. Featuring three unique venues—the Chan Shun Concert Hall, the Telus Studio Theatre, and the Royal Bank Cinema—the Chan Centre is a vital part of UBC campus and community life where artistic and academic disciplines merge to inspire new perspectives on the world around us. Past performers and speakers include Wynton Marsalis, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Renée Fleming, Dan Savage, Yo-Yo Ma, Jane Goodall, Herbie Hancock, Lila Downs, and Anoushka Shankar.

#### **LISTING INFORMATION**

Dates:

Online Ticket Prices:

Address:

Ticket Office:

Website:

Link to Artist Photos:

#### **Marina Thibeault (online only)**

Watch online from April 9, 2021 at 7pm PST

\$0/\$10/\$20 (Supported/General/Supportive)

Chan Centre for the Performing Arts

University of British Columbia

6265 Crescent Road

Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1

[chan.tickets@ubc.ca](mailto:chan.tickets@ubc.ca)

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#### **For further media information:**

Claire Mohun | 604-822-1241

[claire.mohun@ubc.ca](mailto:claire.mohun@ubc.ca)

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